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SUBJECT: German Out-Of-Area Deployment Update

REF: Berlin 2634

¶1. (SBU) As of December 20, Germany has 7,664 military personnel deployed in out-of-area deployments. All Bundeswehr deployments, with the exception of observers such as in Georgia (where currently 11 military personnel are deployed under UNOMIG), all military out-of-area (OOA) deployments require parliamentary approval before deploying. A law regulates the parliamentary process, allowing expedited procedures only for non-controversial deployments. What follows is a brief run-down on Germany's current OOA deployments.

International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)

¶2. (SBU) The Bundeswehr has 2,878 military personnel operating in Afghanistan under the UNSC mandate for ISAF. The ceiling for the deployment is 3000 personnel. Germany commands ISAF's northern region (RC-North), where it operates two Provincial Reconstruction Teams (Konduz and Feyzabad) and the Forward Support Base in Mazar-E-Sharif. The mandate limits the Bundeswehr's operations to Kabul and RC-North, but Germany can provide assistance outside that sector provided it is of limited time and scope and essential for the mission. The current parliamentary mandate extends through October 13, 2007.

United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)

¶3. (SBU) Germany is the lead for UNIFIL's naval component and has 1,002 military personnel deployed. The parliamentary mandate, which has a ceiling of 2,400 personnel, expires with the UN mandate on September 20, 2007.

Kosovo Force (KFOR)

¶4. (SBU) Germany has 2,300 military personnel under the KFOR mandate, which has a ceiling of 8,500 total personnel. The mandate extends automatically unless there is a change to the UNSC Resolution framework for the Kosovo Force.

European Union Force (EUFOR) Bosnia

¶5. (SBU) Germany currently has 888 soldiers in Bosnia as part of an EU force known as Operation ALTHEA. The mandate, amended on December 1, 2006, allows for up to 2,400 military personnel. This operation extends automatically unless there is a change to its underlying UNSC resolution. Security permitting, the German government has

announced it intends to reduce its military presence in coordination with its allies during 2007.

EUFOR RD Congo

16. (SBU) The EUFOR operation in Congo (maximum ceiling 780 military personnel in Congo and Gabon) ended on November 30, 2007 and forces currently are withdrawing. On December 17, there were still 269 soldiers in-theater. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) announced that the bulk of the forces will have left the country by December 23, with only 10-20 persons remaining to close the camps.

Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)

17. (SBU) The German Navy has 248 military personnel operating on the Horn of Africa under OEF. The OEF mandate, which has a ceiling of 1,800 personnel, also covers the deployment of Special Forces for counterterrorism operations in Afghanistan. There are currently no acknowledged German OEF forces in Afghanistan. The OEF mandate also covers contributions to NATO's Operation Active Endeavor (OAE). The OEF mandate extends through November 15, 2006.

United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS)

18. (SBU) Germany currently has 35 military observers in UNMIS, monitoring the implementation of the peace agreement. The parliament imposed a caveat, which bars military observers from going to Darfur without consultation of the Bundestag Foreign Relations Committee's chairman and ranking members. The mandate

BERLIN 00003563 002 OF 002

allows the participation of up to 75 military observers.

African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS)

19. (SBU) The German Air Force provides logistical support for the AU mission in Darfur, Sudan - primarily airlift into and out-of theater for rotating AMIS forces. The mandate allows up to 200 military personnel. There currently are no German soldiers in-theater. The mandate will expire on June 2, 2007.

Other minor deployments:

19. (SBU) Two military observers serve in Ethiopia and Eritrea for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). One soldier is seconded to the EU's advisory and assistance mission for security reform in the Democratic Republic of Congo (EUSEC - R.D. CONGO). One German military observer is seconded to the United Nation Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). The Bundeswehr has seconded 29 military personnel to Strategic Medical Evacuation (STRATAIRMEDEVAC).

TIMKEN, JR